



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KC MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO DISTRIBUTING CRACK COCAINE

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to distributing crack cocaine.

Roderick Fugate, 29, of Kansas City, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Ortrie D. Smith this afternoon to a charge contained in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Dec. 19, 2001, in Kansas City.

By pleading guilty, **Fugate** admitted that he distributed crack cocaine on June 18, 1999. Additionally, **Fugate** admitted that he sold crack cocaine on four other occasions at the Blue Hills Apartment Complex at 6020 Highland in Kansas City. The total weight of the crack cocaine sold on all five occurrences was approximately 44.6 grams, Graves said.

Under federal statutes, Graves said, **Fugate** may be subject to a sentence of up to 20 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$1 million.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Kathleen D. Mahoney. It was investigated by the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Inspector General.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow